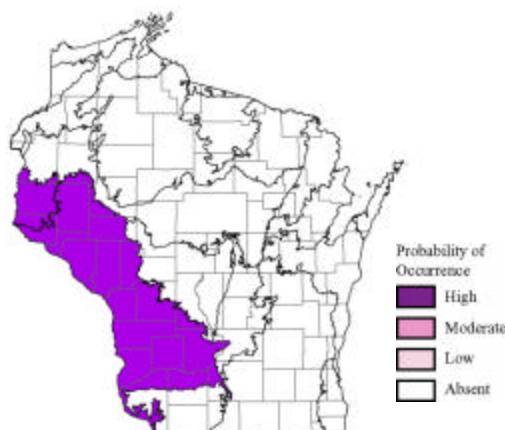


Crystal Darter (*Ammocrypta (Crystallaria) asprella*)

Species Assessment Scores*

State rarity:	5
State threats:	4
State population trend:	3
Global abundance:	5
Global distribution:	5
Global threats:	5
Global population trend:	4
Mean Risk Score:	4.4
Area of importance:	4

* Please see the [Description of Vertebrate Species Summaries \(Section 3.1.1\)](#) for definitions of criteria and scores.



Ecological Landscape Associations

Please note that this is not a range map. Shading does not imply that the species is present throughout the Landscape, but represents the probability that the species occurs somewhere in the Landscape.

Landscape-community Combinations of Highest Ecological Priority

Ecological Landscape	Community
Western Coulee and Ridges	Warmwater rivers
Western Prairie	Warmwater rivers

Threats and Issues

- Species is vulnerable to siltation and other forms of pollution in the Mississippi River system from various sources including agricultural runoff and river alteration projects (e.g., damming, dredging).
- Information is lacking on status and distribution of this species, both because it is rare throughout its range and because it is difficult to sample using conventional fish survey methods.
- Alteration of the Mississippi River for commercial navigation, including dredging and lock-and-dam structures, contributes to habitat destruction (inundation) and degradation (e.g., loss of clean sandy riffles, altered water flow, sedimentation)

Priority Conservation Actions

- Preservation and restoration of the large river habitat is needed, including protection/restoration of areas of clean sand bars/riffles and high currents that are preferred by this species.
- Large scale efforts are needed to reduce pollution and siltation in the Upper Mississippi River basin, including efforts to reduce agricultural runoff.
- Better information on abundance and distribution in Wisconsin is needed, including checking locations of old records and degraded habitats.